

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants originally submitted Claims 1-27 in the application and amended Claims 1-2, 10-11, 19-20 and 25 in a previous response. In the present Final Rejection, the Examiner has indicated that Claims 19-27 are allowed. In order to expedite issuance, the Applicants have canceled Claims 1-18 without prejudice or disclaimer to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Claims 19-27 are currently pending in the application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-12, 15-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-12, 15-16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,456,856 to Werling, *et al.* The §102(b) rejection, however, is now moot since the Applicants have canceled Claims 1-3, 6-7, 9-12, 15-16 and 18 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the §102 rejection and allow issuance of the pending claims.

II. Rejection of Claims 4-5, 8, 13-14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 4-5, 8, 13-14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Werling in view of the following U.S. Patents: U.S. Patent No. 6,195,562 to Pirhonen for Claims 4 and 13; U.S. Patent No. 6,408,187 to Merriam for Claims 5 and 14; and Merriam in further view of U.S. Patent No. 4,636,741 to Mitzlaff for Claims 8 and 17. The §103(a) rejection, however, is now moot since the Applicants have canceled Claims 4-5, 8, 13-14 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the §103(a) rejection and allow issuance of the pending claims.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants now see all of the Claims currently pending in this application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 19-27.

The Applicants request the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees, credits or overpayments to deposit account 08-2395.

Respectfully submitted,

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